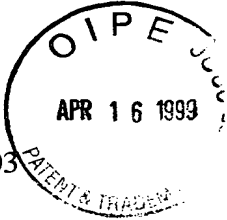


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Masahito NIIKAWA et al. )  
Application No.: 09/251,403 ) Group Art Unit: 2712  
Filed: February 17, 1999 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE FOR )  
PROCESSING IMAGES WHICH ARE )  
RECORDED IN A RECORDING )  
MEDIUM, AND A METHOD )  
THEREOF )



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

**U.S. Patents**

<b>Patent No.</b>	<b>Patentee(s)</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>
5,018,017	Sasaki et al.	05/21/91

A copy of Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 1-278170 is enclosed herewith, as well as an English-language translation.

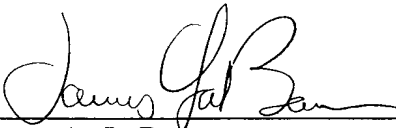
The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialled copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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Date: April <sup>16</sup>~~14~~, 1999